## US Army Corps of Engineers. Savannah District

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## Sealed bids being accepted on first six BNAS homes under government buy-out program

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SAVANNAH, GA. --** Under a program designed to assist eligible homeowners affected by the 2005 Base Realignment or Closure of the Brunswick Naval Air Station, the first six homes acquired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be sold by sealed bid, in a move that allows buyers to purchase homes without the departing federal workers taking a substantial loss in the transaction. Sealed bids will be accepted on the properties Nov. 10 through Nov. 20 by the Corps' Savannah District in Georgia.

Sealed bids should be received not later than Nov. 20 at: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District, P.O. Box 889, ATTN: Mary Baggett, Real Estate Division, Savannah, GA. 31402-0889. Offers being sent via express mail services should use the physical address: 100 W. Oglethorpe Avenue.

Interested buyers and real estate agents must contact the Corps' realty management agency, Fishman Realty in Portland, Maine, for more information on the available properties, or for a showing of the properties. Properties will also be listed with the Multiple Listing Service. Fishman Realty can provide the required bid form. Agents must sign a "Participating Broker Agreement" to obtain access to the properties for showing.

Pricing Information, home specifications, and photographs are available on the Corps' website at: <a href="http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/hapinv/haphomes.htm">http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/hapinv/haphomes.htm</a>.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers serves as the executive agent for the Department of Defense and the Coast Guard's Homeowners Assistance Program. A public law assists eligible homeowners who face a financial loss when selling their homes in areas where real estate values have declined due to a Base Realignment or Closure.

The September 2007 announcement of a Homeowners Assistance Program for the U.S. Naval Air Station Brunswick (BNAS), Maine, paved the way for some monetary relief for eligible military members, federal civilian and non-appropriated fund employees. The government program assists eligible homeowners in four ways: reimburses part of the loss from selling a home; provides funds at the closing to assist in completing the sale of a home; purchases the home; or provides payment for some costs associated with foreclosure.

Any military member, including the U.S. Coast Guard, federally employed civilian and non-appropriated fund employee, who is a U.S. citizen and meets the basic qualifying criteria of the program may be eligible for benefits. To qualify, an applicant must have served or been employed at or near the BNAS on July 19, 2005, the announcement date of the base closure. Additionally, an applicant must have owned and occupied property within the eligible geographic areas at the time of the announcement. Applications are available through the Corps' HAP website at <a href="http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/hapinv/index.html">http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/hapinv/index.html</a> or by calling (800) 861-8144.